Park Roads: Early Summer 2015



Gas Up Outside the Parks

No gas stations lie within the park boundaries. Fill up in Three Rivers (5 miles from Hwy 198 park entrance), Clingan's Junction (20 miles outside the Hwy 180 park entrance), or in USFS areas at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770. Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Stony Creek Village: 1-559-565-3909. 24 hours with credit card. Between Wuksachi & Grant Grove on Generals Hwy.
- Kings Canyon Lodge: 1-559-335-2405. Gas pumped by owner, generally 8am-dark. 17 miles (27 km) from Grant Grove on Hwy 180. Consider calling to ensure availability.

Rules & Recommendations

Don't Lose Your Brakes

Keep a foot on the brake for too long, and brakes may fail. Instead, always downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder.

Prevent Car Fires

Hot brakes & mufflers easily start car and forest fires. Stop only on paved areas, not on grasses.

Use Turnouts; Let Others Pass

Emergency Car Repairs

For a tow: 559-565-3341 then press zero (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, 24-hour AAA for lock outs, jump starts, out-of-gas, minor repairs: 565-4070.

Ride on roads, not trails. Obey traffic rules. Wear light colors at night. Under age 18: helmet required.

Go Slow for Wildlife!

Never feed animals by the road; cars may hit them.

Winding Narrow Roads

Generals Highway between the parks:

• From Wuksachi Lodge (in Sequoia) north to Hwy 180 (in Grant Grove): Open for the season, conditions permitting.

In Kings Canyon (NPS) & National Forest (USFS):

- Hwy 180 to Cedar Grove in the Kings Canyon: Well paved. Does not cross the Sierra.
- · Panoramic Point Road: Motorhomes/trailers not permitted.
- · Redwood Mountain Road(NPS) & Converse Basin (USFS): Unpaved, rough, unplowed. Usually graded in May.
- Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile (USFS)

In Sequoia National Park:

- · Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: Vehiclelength limit 22'; no trailers or towed units. On weekends & holidays through 9/7, the road closes to private vehicles, 9am to late afternoon. You can take the shuttle (page 6), walk, or bicycle during that time. Exception: those with valid disabled-parking placard or a current local wilderness permit.
- · Crystal Cave Road: Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m).
- · Mineral King Road: RVs/trailers not recommended (not allowed in those campgrounds).
- · South Fork & Middle Fork roads: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.

Driving Times

When roads are clear and open:

From Foothills to:

Giant Forest 1 hour

Lodgepole 1 hour minimum 1 hour

Visalia Mineral King (MK) 1½ hours

closed until late May

From Giant Forest to Grant Grove via Generals Hwy 1 hour

From Grant Grove to:

1 hour **Cedar Grove** closed until late April

1½ hours Yosemite south entry 3 hours

(via Hwy 41)

Vehicle Length Limits

On Generals Highway in Sequoia National Park:

- Potwisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum: longer than 22 feet not recommended.
- · Foothills Visitor Center to Potwisha Campground: longer than 24 feet not recommended.

Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider. If towing a car with an RV, camp in the foothills and use the car.

Several other park roads have length limits. See "Winding Narrow Roads" on this page.



Fire Restrictions in Effect

The restrictions below start May 20 and are likely to increase as summer goes on. Always check locally for updates, or see www.nps.gov/seki/naturescience/fire-restrictions. Thank you for your efforts to be safe!

- · No wood or charcoal fires below 6,000 feet in elevation in all park areas except Cedar Grove. Prohibited areas include Buckeye Flat, Potwisha, and South Fork campgrounds as well as picnic areas in Ash Mountain and Hospital Rock.
- · No smoking below 6000 feet, except in an enclosed vehicle or at campgrounds that still permit wood or charcoal fires (in Cedar Grove). Do not drop cigarette butts and matches outdoors.
- · Gas, propane, alcohol, and tablet/cube stoves are still permitted in all areas, until restrictions increase.